The present invention uses a digital processor operable to execute software computationally employing a non-linear gamma correction function to the YUV signal provided by the video source so as to provide a corrected signal to the video output. While in one specific embodiment of the invention a look-up table is used as a reference to provide gamma values determined at a plurality of signal levels, a least-squares fit polynomial equation is employed in this embodiment to calculate the actual gamma corrections used based on the reference values in the table. Thus, while the present invention may use a look-up table in some embodiments thereof, it does so only in the context of "computationally applying a non-linear gamma correction function to the digital YUV signal within a data processor via software in a personal computer" as claimed in claim 6 or in the context of "a digital processor operable to execute software computationally employing a corrective algorithm that applies a non-linear gamma function to the digital YUV signal" as claimed in claim 1.

The basic argument of the Examiner here appears to be that "applying 'a non-linear gamma correction function' is implied because gamma correction, by definition, is a non-linear processing." The Examiner further contends that because the "Welker et al system discloses, for example, a software algorithm to execute functions such as determining the physical arrangement of several monitors as shown in fig. 10 and illustrated in figs. 7 and 11," and "since the disclosure of Welker is for a computer system, it would have been obvious to those with ordinary skill in the art that the time the invention was made to modify the system of Welker et al by providing a computer software to execute a gamma correction algorithm, so that the system of Welker et al is made faster and saves processing time" (emphasis in the original).
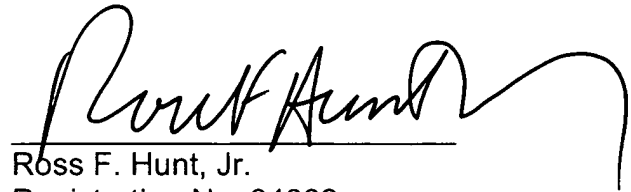
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It is respectfully submitted that the contentions of the Examiner are not well taken given the actual teachings of the Welker et al reference. In this regard, as indicated above, Welker et al discloses no more than a conventional gamma correction engine 308 which employs a gamma correction table. Even if it is assumed that non-linear correction is required, this does not render the present invention obvious from the very limited teachings of the Welker et al patent noted above. The Welker et al patent simply does not teach or make obvious software computationally "employing a corrective algorithm that applies a non-linear gamma function to the digital YUV signal." Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection based on the rejections based on the newly cited Welker et al patent is respectfully solicited.

With respect to the rejection of claim 11, the Warren et al patent clearly does not make up the deficiencies of the Welker et al patent as a reference against claim 1 and thus claim 11 is patentable for at least the reasons set forth above in support of the patentability of claim 1.

Allowance of the application in its present form is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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